



# FIRST THINGS FIRST

*Ready for School. Set for Life.*

## ARIZONA EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & HEALTH BOARD SOUTH PHOENIX REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the First Things First South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council; Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board was held on November 16, 2010 in Conference Room A at The First New Life Missionary Church, 1902 West Roeser Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85041. Chair Robert Donofrio called the regular meeting to order at 2:15 pm.

**Council Members in Attendance:** Dr. Patricia Merk, Educator; Dr. Robert Donofrio, Chair; Jasmine Sanchez, Parent; Dr. Ida Rose Florez, At Large Member; Riann Balch, Child Care Provider; Dr. Eva Marie Shivers, At Large Member, and at 3:45, Mary Thomson, Philanthropy Member arrived.

**Members Not in Attendance:** James Washington, Vice Chair; Reverend Charles Newman, Faith Based Member.

**Member Present By Phone:** Christy Langley-Wells, School Administrator

**Quorum:** Established.

**Staff in Attendance:** Jonathon Gonzales, Regional Coordinator; Briggetta Hawks, Administrative Assistant, and Tracey Craig, Regional Manager.

Chair Donofrio welcomed all guests in attendance and requested that they introduce themselves.

**3. CALL TO THE PUBLIC:** Gordon South, Arizona Department of Health Services provided a summary to the Council on obesity in children. Mary Sue Wattson, owner of Children's Campus encouraged the Council to consider budgeting money for the SFY2012 to scholarships. Mrs. Wattson also shared that fifteen (15) child care programs closed since January, and for every eight children lost in a center, an employee loses their job. Mrs. Wattson feels that there will be retribution for supporting the failure of proposition 302 from the legislature in the way of cutting DES matching funds among other services for children.

**4. CALL TO PRESENTERS:** At the request of the Council at their meeting on October 25, 2010, Allison Comport, Community Impact Program Manager for Valley of the Sun United Way presented to the Council a power-point presentation on Professional REWARD\$. **(Attachment 01)**

**2. CONSENT AGENDA:** Coordinator Gonzales reminded Chair Donofrio of the consent agenda item which includes the special meeting minutes of October 25, 2010 and need to be voted on. Dr. Florez moved to approve the special meeting minutes of October 25, 2010, second by Dr. Shivers, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried.

**5. REGIONAL COORDINATOR UPDATES:** Coordinator Gonzales presented to the Council updates on: Crisis Intervention Prevention/Court Teams, Care Coordination, Comprehensive Preventative Health Plan, and Capacity Building for the Grassroots Mobilization and Leadership Center.

**6. COMMUNITY OUTREACH LIAISON UPDATE:** Coordinator Gonzales informed the Council that Rana had another engagement to attend and facilitate; a speakers bureau training for those who volunteered to speak about First Things First

and the services that are provided. Rana will be available to report at the next scheduled meeting on her outreach efforts as well as a detailed budget for her position.

**7. DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE VOTE: 2012 FUNDING PLAN:** Chair Donofrio complimented Jonathon on the color coded funding plan matrix. Coordinator Gonzales went through each of the strategies and provided an overview of the suggested funding recommendations. The Council was asked to think about the funding plan based on the matrix and questions they may have surrounding the funding plan and strategies.

**Motion:** Dr. Eva Marie Shivers moved to recess for a five (5) minute break, second by Member Jasmine Sanchez, all in favor, no discussion; Council in recess at 3:52 pm.

**Motion:** Dr. Eva Marie Shivers moved to re-convene the special meeting, second by Member Jasmine Sanchez, all in favor, no discussion; Council back in to regular session at 4:06 pm.

Chair Donofrio asked for a round table for each Council Member to express their concerns on where they think that the funding per strategies may be light or heavy based on the matrix provided by Jonathon.

**Member Jasmine Sanchez:** Quality First! With the decrease in the number of Centers, maybe the Council needs to look at decreasing the funding to Quality First! and increasing funding to Kith & Kin.

**Dr. Eva Marie Shivers:** The three legged stool for Quality Access and Affordability. Dr. Shivers feels that the Council needs to take a look at what will happen in the next few years. Although First Things First won the election, child care subsidies will suffer as a result of the No on 302. Dr. Shivers wonders what the barriers will be associated with repercussions. Will the Council be ready to offer more scholarships if subsidies are cut? Dr. Shivers also would like to know where the South Phoenix children are going if so many centers are closing. Dr. Shivers is not sure that the Council can address Quality when Access and Affordability are struggling.

**Dr. Patricia Merk:** Agrees with Dr. Shivers, but knows that families have left the South Phoenix Region. School systems have closed down classrooms which mean that families left the Region. Dr. Merk also mentioned that families have “gone underground” which also impacts what is going on in the South Phoenix Region. Dr. Merk feels that one area that can use a boost is the expansion of Pre-K Slots because there are school districts that have not had the opportunity to participate yet, and the ones that are participating have waiting lists. An area Dr. Merk had a question about was Care Coordination. When this was first talked about, Dr. Merk felt that it was a good idea, but not so much as to where the Council is funding this strategy right now based on what is happening with AHCCCS; is what the Council wanted to achieve with this strategy achievable in today’s climate? Some of the obvious providers did not submit for Care Coordination. This did not get off the ground and not funded. Can the Council use the money for a planning grant? Dr. Merk is also not sure about Media Buy. Dr. Merk likes that Scholarships are tied to Quality First!

**Member Mary Thomson:** Reiterated what was already said about Quality First! Member Thomson also gets Dr. Merk’s concerns around Care Coordination. Member Thomson is concerned about Crisis Prevention and what was proposed. With where the State is right now, it is hard not to scrutinize three hundred fifty thousand dollars to support a pilot project.

**Dr. Ida Rose Florez:** Dr. Florez concurred with what she heard so far. With the Family Friend & Neighbor having waitlists, Ida Rose feels that the Council should look at increasing those dollars. Dr. Florez also agrees about the Health Care Coordination. Although it sounds good, Dr. Florez has a hard time imagining how this will be implemented and how effective it can be in these times. As far as the Media Buy, Dr. Florez feels that the Board should have done a better job in the beginning around communication, messaging, and branding, and does not want to put that item at zero, but a conversation needs to be held regarding Media Buy. Dr. Florez feels that “Collect and Analyze Regional Data” is a concern for her – because in these economic times when the Council needs to target their dollars, how do they do that without the data to support it? What the Council may want to look at is technical support for grantees.

In response to Dr. Florez, Coordinator Gonzales referred to the longitudinal study and the inverted pyramid presentation done by Dr. Kemp to the original Council on the levels of evaluation that will be conducted; as well as output measures that the study provides. Jonathon advised that Dr. Shivers and Dr. Florez were invited by the State to participate as a member of the program committee. Jonathon mentioned that he hears conflicting thoughts: The Council wants to serve a bunch of families, but the Council also wants to have evaluation which it is known that evaluation will eat up the budget impacting the number of families that the Council is able to serve. Also mentioned by Dr. Shivers was how does the Council make funding decisions without data? Dr. Florez explained that at the State wide level of evaluation the intent is to evaluate the overall effects of First Things First at the population level and has nothing to do with the program level of evaluation. Dr. Florez does not feel that it is fair to dichotomize money for evaluation that eats up money for kids because money spent well on evaluation makes sure that the money is spent well on direct services. Dr. Florez feels that the Council may want to focus on certain areas for evaluation. Coordinator Gonzales reminded the Council of the standards of practice put in place by FTF leadership that are evidenced based. Jonathon advised that he can go down the line and explain which strategies are tied to best practices, are evidence based, or have standards of practice attached. Dr. Donofrio advised that when the Council first chose strategies to fund, the programs that were chosen were done so wisely and that Ida's targeted approach may be a good idea. Dr. Florez needs to know the effectiveness of the programs opposed to just meeting the standards of practice. A concern brought up is the amount of money that is being spent statewide on evaluation and the Council is not able to get Regional data. Dr. Donofrio suggested a compromise might be to target the strategies that the Council has concerns about that do not have best practices attached, are not evidence based, or have standards of practices. Chair Donofrio advised that the process of evaluation may take up to multiple years. It was recommended by Member Langley-Wells to look at a combination of programs to target as far as evaluation is concerned.

**Member Riann Balch:** Emphasized that next year will be harder on funding than this year, so looking at the branding piece, the Council should be branding today rather than next year. Member Balch also agrees with the data piece mentioned. Riann also feels that the analysis needs to be done for the Pre-K Expansion. There are plenty of areas in the City where Pre-K Slots can't be used and are competing with other dollars making it difficult, and there are other areas that are sorely under served and could really use Pre-K slots.

**Member Kristi Langley Wells:** Had a question about Family Friend and Neighbor Support. Based on the waiting lists and the fact that this program gets right out into the neighborhood, how much of a difference will the additional sixty five thousand dollars allocated actually help? Based on the figures, the estimate is about one hundred and twenty more children. Member Langley-Wells would like to see the Council look at this strategy.

**Dr. Robert Donofrio:** Chair Donofrio expressed that there needs to be a program for fathers. Jonathon reminded the Council of the South Phoenix Healthy Start done through the Maricopa County Department of Public Health that falls under the Pre and Post natal strategy. Dr. Donofrio would like to have the sub-contract amount. Dr. Donofrio would like to see the REWARD\$ program funded. Dr. Donofrio would like to keep the level of funding for Quality First! because South Phoenix is losing Centers, can't reach capacity, and the Centers that are in Quality First! are dropping out. Dr. Donofrio would also like to increase Pre-K Slots. Chair Donofrio would like for Dr. Florez and Dr. Shivers to meet with Jonathon to discuss targeted evaluation. Dr. Donofrio is also concerned about Media Buy and feels that although the election did help with getting First Things First recognition, there is still work that needs to be done. Chair Donofrio recommended that the Council have five days to email Jonathon with where they want to allocate funding and where they would like to take funding away then come back with their recommendations.

Jonathon advised that he would rather allocate funding to the strategies at this meeting so that he has time to craft the funding plan; a hundred plus page document in time for it to be placed in the Board Book which is due December 13, 2010.

Dr. Donofrio requested that Dr. Merk Chair the rest of the meeting and exited at 5:15 pm.

Dr. Merk advised that during the round table she heard areas that needed adjustment and areas where she sensed consensus. Dr. Merk recommended that the Council go through the items where there was consensus and leave the questionable items; that way, if another meeting is needed, there is some time to be a little more thoughtful.

Dr. Merk asked for a motion to proceed. Dr. Florez, moved to proceed with the meeting to vote on strategies that members have consensus on and table the strategies that consensus is not reached on, second by Dr. Shivers, all in favor with the exception of Member Langley-Wells; motion carried. The consensus of the Council was to go line item by line item to determine if a strategy should be increased, decreased, or maintained at current funding then vote on the strategies that the Council had consensus on. Coordinator Gonzales expressed his gratitude for moving forward.

It was decided by the Council to table T.E.A.C.H., Quality First, and Scholarships as they are all tied together. After discussion the Council indicated that their decisions may change and that further discussion is needed.

STRATEGY	INCREASE	DECREASE	MAINTAIN
<u>Expand Access to T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Arizona</u> - Tabled		Dr. Eva Marie Shivers Kristi Langley-Wells Riann Balch	Dr. Patricia Merk Dr. Ida Rose Florez Mary Thomson Jasmine Sanchez
<u>Quality First</u> – Tabled		Dr. Eva Marie Shivers Kristi Langley-Wells Riann Balch Mary Thomson Jasmine Sanchez Dr. Ida Rose Florez Dr. Patricia Merk Jasmine Sanchez	
<u>Scholarships</u> – Tabled		Dr. Eva Marie Shivers Kristi Langley-Wells Riann Balch Mary Thomson Dr. Ida Rose Florez Dr. Patricia Merk	
<u>Child Care Health Consultants</u> – Consensus Reached			Dr. Eva Marie Shivers Kristi Langley-Wells Riann Balch Mary Thomson Dr. Ida Rose Florez Jasmine Sanchez Dr. Patricia Merk
<u>Mental Health Consultants</u> <b>Dr. Shivers Declared Conflict</b> – Consensus Reached			Kristi Langley-Wells Riann Balch Mary Thomson Dr. Ida Rose Florez Jasmine Sanchez Dr. Patricia Merk
<u>Family Friend &amp; Neighbor</u> – <b>Dr. Eva Marie Shivers Declared Conflict</b> - Tabled	Jasmine Sanchez Kristi Langley-Wells Mary Thomson Riann Balch Dr. Ida Rose Florez		Dr. Patricia Merk

STRATEGY	INCREASE	DECREASE	MAINTAIN
<u>Child Care Director Mentoring</u> – Consensus Reached			Jasmine Sanchez Kristi Langley-Wells Mary Thomson Riann Balch Dr. Ida Rose Florez Dr. Eva Marie Shivers Dr. Patricia Merk
<u>Expansion of Pre-K Slots</u> – Tabled			
<u>Comprehensive Preventive Health Plan</u> – Consensus Reached			Jasmine Sanchez Kristi-Langley-Wells Mary Thomson Riann Balch Dr. Ida Rose Florez Dr. Eva Marie Shivers Dr. Patricia Merk
<u>Care Coordination</u> – Tabled			
<u>Pre &amp; Post Natal Outreach &amp; Support</u> – Consensus Reached	Kristi Langley-Wells		Jasmine Sanchez Mary Thomson Riann Balch Dr. Ida Rose Florez Dr. Eva Marie Shivers Dr. Patricia Merk
<u>Professional Childhood Incentives</u> – Consensus Reached	Dr. Eva Marie Shivers says this can be re-visited next year and they may want to increase, but for now she will go with Maintain.		Dr. Ida Rose Florez Mary Thomson Riann Balch Jasmine Sanchez Dr. Patricia Merk Kristi Langley-Wells Dr. Eva Marie Shivers
<u>Family Resource Center</u> – Dr. Patricia Merk Declared Conflict - Consensus Reached	This may be another area next year where the Council may decide to increase based on previous discussions.		Jasmine Sanchez Mary Thomson Riann Balch Dr. Ida Rose Florez Dr. Eva Marie Shivers
<u>Home Visitation</u> – Dr. Eva Marie Shivers Declared Conflict – Tabled – Council wants to look at this since there are current waiting lists on two of the components of this strategy.	Kristi Langley-Wells Dr. Ida Rose Florez Mary Thomson - ?		Jasmine Sanchez Riann Balch
<u>Coordination Mobilization and Capacity Building Center</u> Consensus Reached			Jasmine Sanchez Kristi-Langley-Wells Mary Thomson Riann Balch Dr. Ida Rose Florez Dr. Eva Marie Shivers Dr. Patricia Merk

STRATEGY	INCREASE	DECREASE	MAINTAIN
<u>Community Outreach Liaison</u> – Consensus Reached			Jasmine Sanchez Kristi-Langley-Wells Mary Thomson Riann Balch Dr. Ida Rose Florez Dr. Eva Marie Shivers Dr. Patricia Merk
<u>Media Buy</u> – Tabled			
<u>Crisis Prevention</u> – Consensus Reached			Jasmine Sanchez Kristi-Langley-Wells Mary Thomson Riann Balch Dr. Ida Rose Florez Dr. Eva Marie Shivers Dr. Patricia Merk
<u>REWARDS</u> – Want to wait on this. Would like to have funding based on spending the entire amount opposed to by slots. Also would like to look at other pieces – Tabled	Dr. Shivers @ least double Dr. Ida Rose Florez at least double Mary Thomson Kristi Langley-Wells Riann Balch		

### **MOTIONS**

**Child Care Health Consultants:** Mary Thomson moved to allocate seven hundred fifty five thousand dollars (\$755,000.00) to Child Care Health Consultants for Fiscal Year 2012, second by Dr. Ida Rose Florez, Dr. Patricia Merk declared conflict, no discussion; motion carried. Vote= 6 Yes, 1 Abstain.

**Mental Health Consultants:** Riann Balch moved to allocate six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000.00) to Mental Health Consultants for Fiscal Year 2012, second by Jasmine Sanchez, conflict declared by Dr. Eva Marie Shivers, no discussion; motion carried Vote= 6 Yes, 1 Abstain

**Child Care Director Mentoring:** Dr. Ida Rose Florez, moved to allocate three hundred eleven thousand eighty three dollars and ninety four cents (\$311,083.94) to Child Care Director Mentoring for Fiscal Year 2012, second by Dr. Eva Marie Shivers, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried. Yes=7

**Preventative Health Plan:** Dr. Eva Marie Shivers moved to allocate one million three hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$1,380,000.00) to Preventative Health Plan for Fiscal Year 2012, second by Jasmine Sanchez, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried. Vote: Yes=7

**Pre & Post Natal Outreach:** Mary Thomson Moved to allocate five hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$550,000.00) to Pre & Post Natal Outreach for Fiscal Year 2012, second by Jasmine Sanchez, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried. Vote: Yes=7

**Professional Childhood Incentives:** Mary Thomson, moved to allocate five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) to Professional Childhood Incentives for Fiscal Year 2012, second by Dr. Ida Rose Florez, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried. Vote: Yes=7

**Family Resource Center:** Riann Balch, Member moved to allocate one million one hundred fifteen thousand one hundred forty one dollars and twenty five cents (\$1,115,141.25) to Family Resource Center for Fiscal Year 2012, second by Dr. Eva Marie Shivers, Dr. Patricia Merk, declared conflict, no discussion; motion carried. Vote: Yes=6, Abstain=1.

**Coordination, Mobilization Capacity Building:** Dr. Eva Marie Shivers moved to allocate three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000.00) to Coordination, Mobilization Capacity Building for Fiscal Year 2012, second by Mary Thomson, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried. Vote: Yes=7.

**Community Outreach Liaison:** Member Mary Thomson moved to allocate one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) to Community Outreach Liaison for Fiscal Year 2012, second by Dr. Ida Rose Florez, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried. Vote: Yes=7

**Crisis Prevention:** Jasmine Sanchez moved to allocate five hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$550,000.00) to Crisis Prevention for Fiscal Year 2012, second by Mary Thomson, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried. Vote: Yes=7.

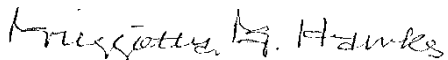
STRATEGY	AMOUNT	MOTION BY	SECOND BY	CONFLICT	VOTE
Child Care Consultants	\$755,000.00	Mary Thomson	Dr. Ida Rose Florez	Dr. Patricia Merk	6 Yes 1 Abstain
Mental Health Consultant	\$600,000.00	Riann Balch	Jasmine Sanchez	Dr. Shivers	6 Yes 1 Abstain
Child Care Director Mentoring	\$311,083.94	Dr. Ida Rose Florez	Dr. Eva Marie Shivers	N/A	7 Yes
Preventative Health Plan	\$1,380,000.00	Dr. Eva Marie Shivers	Jasmine Sanchez	N/A	7 Yes
Pre & Post Natal Outreach	\$550,000.00	Mary Thomson	Jasmine Sanchez	N/A	7 Yes
Professional Childhood Incentives	\$500,000.00	Mary Thomson	Dr. Ida Rose Florez	N/A	7 Yes
Family Resource Center	\$1,115,141.25	Riann Balch	Dr. Eva Marie Shivers	Dr. Patricia Merk	6 Yes 1 Abstain
Coordination, Mobilization Capacity Building	\$350,000.00	Dr. Eva Marie Shivers	Mary Thomson	N/A	7 Yes
Community Outreach Liaison	\$100,000.00	Mary Thomson	Dr. Ida Rose Florez	N/A	7 Yes
Crisis Prevention	\$550,000.00	Jasmine Sanchez	Mary Thomson	N/A	7 Yes

**7. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** This will be determined by checking the schedules of the Council Members. A request will be sent to all Members for their availability on December 1<sup>st</sup>, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, and December 6<sup>th</sup> in the morning and in the afternoon.

**8. ADJOURNMENT:** Member Dr. Shivers moved to adjourn the regular meeting, second by Member Jasmine Sanchez, all in favor, no discussion, meeting adjourned at 6:12 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

APPROVED:



Briggetta Hawks, Administrative Assistant



Jonathon Gonzales, Regional Coordinator

**COUNCIL APPROVAL:**



Robert Donofrio, Chair